



• INFO memo -

May 2, 2003_

To: City of Broken Arrow Mayor and City Council

From: Office of the City Manager

Free Spring Clean-up Day Saturday

If history means anything, the lines will be long and the piles of trash high Saturday as the City of Broken Arrow holds its annual Free Spring Clean-up Day at the Maintenance Center, 1700 W. Detroit.

From 8 a.m. through 5 p.m. city residents will be able to bring in trucks, trailers and cars loaded with trash of nearly all types and drop it off for no charge. Public Works Director Dave Wooden points out that the City crews will not take old refrigerators or air conditioners which contain hazardous materials, nor will they accept paints, antifreeze, etc.

But this is a perfect time to get rid of yard trash, attic and shed “junk,” etc.

Crews will be on hand to help direct traffic and unload items. But expect long lines, especially early in the morning.

Wooden also announced the final figures for the City’s free trash bag distribution, which ended April 26. In the 10 days that the rolls of plastic bags were handed out to City customers, there were 18,910 cards turned in for a total of 3,782,000 bags. That’s slightly higher than the 18,651 cards and 3,730,200 bags last spring.

All City utility customers receive cards in the mail which are then exchanged for 4 rolls of 50 bags each. Those customers who are home-bound may call the City and ask for the trash bags to be delivered to their homes. Cards must be exchanged at that time.

City Prepares for Busy Week

The rooster is getting ready to flap its wings starting Thursday, and Homeland Security preparation is calling at Camp Gruber starting Tuesday – making this next week one of the busiest of the year for City of Broken Arrow police and fire departments.

A Chamber of Commerce annual event, Rooster Days will begin Thursday (May 8) at 4:30 p.m. and continue through 11 p.m. Friday's schedule will also begin at 4:30 p.m., going through midnight. Saturday will kickoff with the Rooster Days Parade down Main Street at 10 a.m., followed by more food, fun, games and entertainment in Central Park until midnight. Sunday's finale will start at 1 p.m. and run through 6 p.m.

City employees from Parks & Recreation, Public Works and the police and fire departments are instrumental each year in helping plan Rooster Days with Chamber officials. During the event itself, police and fire departments will be particularly busy. Fire Chief Ron Osborn said that an EMS unit would be stationed at Central Park throughout Rooster Days in case it 's needed. Police help with traffic control, parking and crowd control. Once again this year there will be parking for handicapped at the Family Aquatic Center lot, on the northeast corner of Central Park.

The Homeland Security exercise at Camp Gruber is a nationally sponsored event to assist in preparing local first-responders, as well as emergency management teams, for a variety of potential disasters.

Broken Arrow will have the largest contingent at the event, which will start at 12 noon Tuesday (May 6) and continue through the afternoon of Thursday, May 8. Osborn said that the BAFD would be sending eight personnel and three vehicles to Camp Gruber. The BAPD will participate Tuesday and Wednesday, but not on Thursday when Rooster Days begins.

City Staff Undergoes Changes

Gary Blackford, a veteran City employee who got his start in the Fire Department, has been named Assistant to the City Manager in a realignment of staff by Michael Kadlecik.

After the retirement of City Clerk and Administrative Services Director Brenda Ray last month, the decision was made by City Manager Kadlecik to streamline some of the divisions at City Hall. A search for a new City Clerk is in its final stages, but the Administrative Services department was dissolved. Human Resources, formerly a part of Administrative Services, will be its own department, with Russell Gale serving as Director.

Blackford will take on some of the responsibilities formerly in Administrative Services and will assist Kadlecik in some of his duties. The new position calls for Blackford to be "responsible for relieving the City Manager of some of the administrative tasks through supervision, coordination and direction of those duties and acting as City Manager in the City Manager's absence."

He will remain active in business development issues. Employee Safety and Risk Management, headed by Branon Dodd, will now be under the City Manager's wings.

Linda Fagundes, another veteran City employee, has been named Executive Coordinator of Administration and will continue her role as Kadlecik's

administrative assistant.

Storm Siren Testing Set for Monday

A test of Broken Arrow 's tornado warning sire system is scheduled for 12 noon Monday, May 5 – weather permitting.

The system undergoes silent testing throughout the year, but during the spring months audible testing is done to be sure that all sirens are working properly.

If there is threatening weather Monday, the testing will be moved to the following Wednesday.

The sire system is designed to alert those who are outside or in their vehicles. However, in most areas of the city they can be heard in homes and businesses.

Swim Lesson Signups Continue

Signups are continuing for the City of Broken Arrow Learn to Swim program, which will begin June 2. Those wishing to enroll their children may do so at the Community Center, 1500 S. Main, during regular business hours.

Cost of each session is \$40. That includes four lessons each week for two weeks (Mondays through Thursdays). The classes, which last about 40 minutes for older children and 30 for infants, start at 9:00 in the mornings, with a new group starting each hour through 12:30 p.m. Evening classes are also available at 6 p.m., with two more finishing at about 8:30.

Learn to Swim classes are held in the old Central Pool in Central Park, adjacent to the Family Aquatic Center. Sarah Ann Brown will once again be Supervisor of the aquatics lessons program. The phone number for additional information is 259-8436.

Anyone with a Water Safety Instructor certificate who wishes to work in the program should contact the City of Broken Arrow Human Resources Department at City Hall.

The Family Aquatic Center at Central Park is scheduled to open Memorial Day weekend (May 24).

City Earns Strong Praise from Contractor

Allen Couch, President of W. N. Couch, Inc., Contractors, delivered some words of high praise to the City of Broken Arrow in a letter to City Manager Michael Kadlecik.

His company recently completed a contract for CDBG XI Sewer Replacement in Broken Arrow. In his letter, Couch said, "We have worked for many cities and state entities, all of whom could learn from the manner in which Broken Arrow conducts business. Our questions were answered quickly and thoroughly, inspections were fair, and payment for our work was unbelievably prompt. In fact, we have never worked for a City that could process payment applications so

efficiently. David Wooden and his staff are a credit to the City and should be commended.”

Police Officers Commended

Broken Arrow Police Sergeant Mark D. Irwin was praised by Michael T. Horn, Director of the U.S. Department of Justice National Drug Intelligence Center for his work in completing the National Drug Threat Survey 2002.

In his letter to the BAPD, Horn thanked the department, and paid a special tribute to Irwin for a response “which provided us with invaluable information on current and emerging drug trafficking threats in your jurisdiction. ”

The Police Department was sent a certificate of appreciation by Horn.

Assistant Police Chief Rick Ross also commended Officer Sean Regan after a resident called to say that the officer had noticed a door to her car was ajar during a patrol through her neighborhood. The resident was “impressed by the observant nature of the incident,” and reported that nothing was missing from the vehicle.

Ross also commended Major Todd Wuestewald after the Oklahoma Municipal League wrote in praise of his work at the OML Beauty and the Blight workshop. In the letter, Wuestewald was cited for his evaluations which “were highly favorable and expressed enthusiasm that you specifically addressed areas of concerns for our local officials....Thank you for helping to raise municipal officials’ awareness of the importance of current and future beautification efforts. ”